

Speaker Biography  
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The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education

## **Mark Emmert**

Mark A. Emmert was appointed as the 30th president of the University of Washington, effective June 14, 2004. Emmert's top goal as President of the University of Washington is to further expand the University's stellar national and international standing. With the UW already ranked as the leading public university in terms of research grants and contracts, Emmert hopes to work with faculty and staff to support continued growth of seminal research and to provide students with even greater educational opportunities. These efforts must also offer access and affordability for students, promote diversity across the University, and provide the resources needed to recruit and retain the finest faculty in all academic fields.

He served as Chancellor of Louisiana State University, April 1999 – June 2004. There he developed and launched a comprehensive Flagship Agenda, a strategic plan to improve LSU's academic reputation and position it among the finest public universities in the country. During his tenure the University hired dozens more faculty, created aggressive initiatives in information technology and biotechnology, significantly increased research funding, improved faculty and staff salaries, and sharply elevated the academic profile of the student body.

He was a J. W. Fulbright Administrative Fellow in Germany (1991) and attended a Fulbright Administrative Seminar in former East Germany (1994). Emmert was a visiting scholar in Melbourne and lectured and conducted training programs in Hong Kong, Okinawa, Panama City, and Guam. He was an American Council on Education Fellow and served as chair of the Council of Academic Affairs for the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). He is co-chair of NASULGC's Board of Oceans and Atmosphere. He is the author of numerous journal articles, monographs, book chapters, and technical reports.

A 1975 graduate of the University of Washington, where he majored in political science, Emmert received his master's degree in 1976 and his doctorate in 1983, both in public administration from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University.